

**RHODE ISLAND NATIONAL GUARD
JOINT FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Command Readiness Center
645 New London Avenue
Cranston, Rhode Island 02920-3097**

TAGRI-J1/MPA

13 March 2007

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL RHODE ISLAND ARMY GUARD UNITS

SUBJECT: Guidance to Wear the Shoulder Sleeve Insignia – Former Wartime Service (SSI-FWTS)

1. Reference AR 670 -1, 3 Feb 05, subject: Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia.
2. The purpose of this memorandum is to clarify guidance on wearing the shoulder sleeve insignia – former wartime service. The most common error is members of deployed units serving at a brigade level or below wearing a division or corps level SSI as their SSI-FWTS.
3. Paragraph 28 – 16, AR 670-1, provides guidance on wear and explains the organizational authorization of the shoulder sleeve insignia for current organizations.
4. Paragraph 28 – 17, AR 670-1, provides guidance on wear and explains the authorization to wear the shoulder sleeve insignia to indicate a soldier's participation in wartime service in US Army units during operations for a specific period of time and service for which authorization is designated.
5. Appendix F, AR 670-1, explains applicability and general guidance on wearing the shoulder sleeve insignia – former wartime service as follows:
 - a. The SSI-FWTS applies to soldiers of all components Active, ARNG, and USAR, that deploy during the periods of service designated for wear in accordance with paragraph 28-17.
 - b. There is no time-in-theater requirement to be authorized to wear the SSI-FWTS.
 - c. Soldiers may elect not to wear any SSI-FWTS.
 - d. A deployed unit that is authorized to wear an SSI in its own right, in accordance with para 28-16, will wear that unit's SSI as the SSI-FWTS. This is true regardless of whether the headquarters element deploys and regardless of the number of changes to the unit's alignment or operational control (OPCON) during the period of deployment. (Most brigade level commands and higher are authorized an SSI. Normally, a lower level command such as a battalion, company, or battery, etc, will wear the SSI of their higher brigade level command.) For example: The 43d MP Bde is authorized its own SSI; therefore, all units that serve under that command while deployed to include the 43d MP Bde are authorized to wear the 43d MP Bde SSI as their SSI-FWTS. Even if the 43d MP Bde deploys and serves under 5th Corps or a Task Force, the SSI-FWTS for the brigade and its subordinate units is the 43d MP Bde's SSI.
 - e. When a unit not entitled to its own SSI deploys (such as a battalion or lower level unit), the OPCON relationship prior to deployment is terminated, and a new OPCON relationship is established. Members of these units will wear the SSI of the LOWEST ECHELON deployed unit entitled to an SSI in their new deployed chain of command as their SSI-FWTS. For example: If the 118th MP Bn deploys and serves OPCON under the 16th MP Bde, it will still wear the 43d MP Bde SSI (left sleeve); however, it will not wear the 43d MP Bde's SSI as their SSI-FWTS (right sleeve), because they are no longer OPCON to the 43d MP Bde while serving on their deployment. The members of the 118th MP Bn are authorized to wear the 16th MP Bde SSI as their SSI-FWTS, because they fall OPCON to them for deployment purposes.

TAGRI-J1/MPA

SUBJECT: Guidance to Wear the Shoulder Sleeve Insignia – Former Wartime Service (SSI-FWTS)

f. When there is no intermediate unit that has its own SSI in the deployed chain of command, members of a unit not entitled to its own SSI will wear the SSI of the senior Army command in the theater as their SSI-FWTS. For example: The headquarters portion of the 118th MP Bn (40 pax) is deployed to serve as a Rear Area Operations Command (RAOC) directly OPCON to the 4th Infantry Division (ID). Since there is no brigade level element between the battalion and division the members serving in the RAOC are authorized to wear the 4th ID SSI as their SSI-FWTS.

g. Soldiers who are crossed-leveled, assigned, attached, or augmenting deployed units will wear the same SSI-FWTS worn by the members of the deployed unit(s) to which attached or OPCON. For example: A single member of the 118th MP Bn is deployed on orders to serve with 5th Corps to serve as a liaison officer or liaison NCO. That member is authorized to wear the 5th Corps SSI because the member has orders directly assigning him/her to that organization.

h. Soldiers authorized to wear more than one SSI-FWTS may choose which SSI-FWTS they wear. For example: A member serving with the 118th MP Bn RAOC under the 4th ID while deployed is crossed-leveled on orders to 5th Corps to serve as a liaison officer or liaison NCO. That member is authorized to wear the 4th ID or 5th Corps SSI because the member has orders assigning him/her to both organizations.

6. POC is LTC Darlene A. Dorego at darlene.dorego@us.army.mil or 275-4136.

FOR THE COMMANDER:


VIRGINIA G. BARHAM
COL, GS
J1